

Parkland College Department of Fine and Applied Arts  
proudly presents:

# ONCE UPON A MATRESS

## BOOK

Jay Thompson, Dean Fuller,  
and Marshall Barer

## MUSIC

Mary Rodgers

## LYRICS

Marshall Barer

## DIRECTOR

Randi Jennifer Collins Hard

## CHOREOGRAPHER

Jean Ray Korder

## LIGHTING DESIGNER

Thomas V. Korder

## MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Tim Schirmer

## COSTUME DESIGNER

Michelle Mills

## TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

David G. Dillman

February 23, 25, 26, March 3, 4, 5 at 7:30pm  
March 5, 6 at 3pm  
Parkland College Theatre  
2011

Produced by special arrangement with The Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization.

## CAS

<b>Minstrel</b>	Michael Steen
<b>Wizard</b>	Brad Mehrtens*
<b>Lady Larken</b>	Ariella Cohen*
<b>Queen Aggravain</b>	Breelyn Mehrtens*
<b>Prince Dauntless</b>	David Zych
<b>King Sextimus The Silent</b>	Al Heckman
<b>Jester</b>	Sid Hastings*
<b>Sir Studley/4th Knight</b>	Rob Zaleski
<b>Sir Luce/2nd Knight</b>	William Rose II
<b>Royal Cup Bearer</b>	Steve Meadows*
<b>1st Knight</b>	Ernest Bush*
<b>3rd Knight</b>	Jamie LeRoy*
<b>1st Lady in Waiting/Rowena</b>	Kirby Toalson*
<b>2nd Lady in Waiting/ Merrill</b>	Angela Arwine*
<b>3rd Lady in Waiting/Lucille</b>	Lily Maclin*
<b>4th Lady in Waiting</b>	Kristal Monahan-Mitchell
<b>Sir Harry</b>	David Barkley
<b>Kitchen Wench</b>	Jacquelyn O'Neal*
<b>Mary Celeste Rosenberg</b>	Kirby Toalson*
<b>Princess Winnifred</b>	Cecilee Von Rhea*
<b>Lady Mabelle</b>	Katie McCann
<b>Nightingale</b>	Haley Vick
<b>Page</b>	T. J. Chalfant

***Time: 2011. Place: Castle Casino, Altantic City, New Jersey.***

*There will be One 10-minute intermission. Refreshments are available in the lobby.*

## MUSICIANS

<b>Conductor</b>	Tim Schirmer
<b>Flute/Piccolo</b>	Karen Ranney
<b>Oboe</b>	Karin Vermillion
<b>Clarinet</b>	Jeremy Dassow
<b>Bass Clarinet</b>	Darrell Aydelott
<b>Horn</b>	Derek Dagit
<b>Trumpet</b>	Lou D'Andria, Ben Sampson
<b>Trombone</b>	Joshua Torrey
<b>Piano</b>	Kristine Engberg
<b>Synthesizer(Harp)</b>	Charles Belanger
<b>Synthesizer(Strings)</b>	Nick Schneider
<b>Bass</b>	Ed Schaller
<b>Percussion</b>	Kaleb Barkley
<b>Drum Set</b>	Eric Hansen

## PRODUCTION STAFF

<b>Stage Manager</b>	Wes Huff*
<b>Assistant Director</b>	Katie Crull*
<b>Assistant Lighting Designer</b>	Andrew Hart*
<b>Master Electricians</b>	Matthew Sylvain*
<b>Properties Coordinator</b>	Ross Henry*
<b>Properties Assistant</b>	Brittany Norman*
<b>Audio Operator</b>	Emma Rannebarger
<b>Light Board Operator</b>	Matthew Sylvain*
<b>Scenic and Lighting Crew</b>	Shannon Adamson. Ernest Bush*, Ariella Cohen*, Katie Crull, Andrew Hart*, Sid Hastings*, Ross Henry*, Wes Huff*, Ray Mattingly, Breelyn Mehrstens*, Brittany Norman*, Matthew Sylvain*
<b>Run Crew</b>	Ross Henry*, Brittany Norman*
<b>Costume Construction Crew</b>	Jacquelyn O'Neal*
<b>Master of Bling</b>	Thom Schnarre
<b>Ticket Office Manager</b>	Dallas Street
<b>Ticket Office Assistant</b>	Shannon Adamson
<b>Assistant House Manager</b>	Rebecca Ogwal*

## THEATRE STAFF

<b>Artistic Director</b>	Randi Jennifer Collins Hard
<b>Facility Technical Director</b>	Bernard Wolff
<b>Technical Director</b>	David G. Dillman
<b>Assistant Technical Director</b>	Matt Rowlen
<b>Theatre Marketing Coordinator</b>	Dallas Street
<b>House Manager</b>	Joshua D. Stewart

Please turn off your cell phone, beeper, or any electronic device that might make noise during the performance. No text-messaging please — just opening your phone can cause distractions. If you use your cell phone during the intermission, please ensure that your phone is turned off before you re-enter the auditorium. Lastly, as a courtesy to your fellow audience members and the actors onstage, we request that you do not open plastic-wrapped candies, mints, or cough drops during the performance.

Thanks for your cooperation!



## CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**Angela Arwine\* (2nd Lady in Waiting/Merrill)** Angela is currently a theatre student at Parkland College. You may have recently seen her as Mary Elizabeth Peterson in *Nuncrackers!*, or also in *No Evil* as Lacie, or as D in *The Age of Stupid Part #3*. She wants to thank her family and all of her friends for their love and support, but especially Miss "Kirbsy" Toalson and Miss "Emma" Lily Maclin.

**David Barkley (Sir Harry)** David first appeared in a PCC show as Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*. Since then, *Assassins*, *Laughing Stock*, and several others have made his "favorites" list. He most recently appeared at the Station Theater as Sterling in *Mauritius*, Phil and East in *Almost, Maine*, and Schultz in *Circle Mirror Transformation*.

**Ernest Bush\* (1st Knight)** This is his first play here at Parkland and he's very excited about it. Ernest would like to thank his mother and father for putting him on this earth and giving him this talent. "Look forward to seeing my face all over!"

**T.J. Chalfant (Page)** This is T.J.'s first play with Parkland. He has performed as QWERTY in *Olive Lives in the Basement* (A Mahomet-Seymour Junior High Production) and was the Bundle Boy in a staged reading of *Without Discretion*. He will be starring as Xander Huelsenbeck in the upcoming MSJH production of *Xander Huelsenbeck Tackles the Twelve Trials of the Oobowah*. He would like to thank his parents for getting him to rehearsals and encouraging him.

**Ariella Cohen\* (Lady Larken)** Ariella is a sophomore at Parkland College studying Theatre. She has been in many plays including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Nuncrackers!* This fall she plans on pursuing her dream of studying Korean at a university in Seoul, South Korea. "Thanks to everyone in the cast (and the directors, of course) for being amazing!! Break a leg everyone"

**Sid Hastings\* (Jester)** Sid is a freshman theatre major at Parkland College and most certainly LOVES being a Jester. After Parkland, he hopes to continue with acting studies in a big city, at a grand college like Carnegie Mellon or Emerson, and after that, he'd like to work for Cirque du Soleil. This is his musical debut on the Parkland stage! Some of the previous shows he has acted in include *MASH*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Anything Goes*, *14 Lines*, *Back to the 80s*, *Get Smart*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and Parkland's *Weekend of One-Act Plays*. He has worked as a spot-light operator, an assistant stage manager, and a scenic designer for previous Parkland productions. He thanks everyone for being so kind and accepting!

**Al Heckman (King Sextimus The Silent)** Al is pleased to have this opportunity to perform on Parkland's stage again. He most recently appeared as the priest in the one act play *The Valiant* followed immediately by an appearance as the Pope in *Nuncrackers!* and now he's the King! Life truly is wonderful! It's been a delight to work with this talented cast and crew. A very special thanks to Randi and Dr. Tim for their patient direction as well as their warm friendship.

**Jamie LeRoy\* (3rd Knight)** Jamie played a role in *Outside the Box* and operated the light board. Jamie also helped build set for *Outside the Box*. He would like to thank his family and friends for all the help and encouragement they have given him and he would like to thank Wes Huff for the opportunity to be in his play, for if he had not been in *Outside the Box* he would not have had the pleasure of meeting so many new people like Sid Hastings.

**Lily Maclin\* (3rd Lady in Waiting/Lucille)** Lily is a second year theater major at Parkland College. Lily just finished playing Dollie™ in the student production of *Outside the Box* and Maria Montini in *Nuncrackers!* This is her last semester at Parkland College and wants to thank everyone for making these last two years so wonderful. Lily wants to tell the cast and crew to "BREAK A LEG!!"

**Katie McCann (Lady Mabelle)** Katie is very excited to be performing in her first Parkland show. She has been in many productions such as *Once On This Island*, *Anything Goes*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She recently graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University and is currently teaching elementary music at Unity East Elementary.

**Steve Meadows\* (Royal Cup Bearer)** Steve is excited for his first appearance with Parkland. Past shows include CUTC's productions of *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Footloose*, and *Aida*. He'd like to thank his family, friends and the cast/crew of *Once Upon a Mattress* for all their hard work!

**Brad Mehrtens (Wizard)** Brad feels bittersweet about this show. Yes, he gets to perform with wonderful people and work with a fabulous set of directors, choreographers, designers, and crew. On the other hand, it will simply not be the same around here without Dr. Schirmer behind the baton. From *Little Shop of Horrors* to *Once Upon a Mattress*, Brad has enjoyed every opportunity he has had to work with this wonderful musician and friend over the last 11 years. "Best of luck to you in all your future endeavors, Tim. We'll miss you on stage!"

\*Parkland College theatre major

**Breelyn Mehrtens\* (*Queen Aggravain*)** Breelyn is happy to be on the Parkland stage once more. This is her first big role in a musical, and she would like to thank Randi, the cast, the crew, her family and friends. She would particularly like to thank Tim Schirmer, and will miss him very much after this show. Through the shows over the years, she has come to see him not only as an extremely talented man, but a caring person and a respected father-figure. She is both thrilled and honored to be working with him on his last show at Parkland. "Thank you for everything, Tim—I will never forget all of the fun we've had!"

**Kristal Monahan-Mitchell (*4th Lady in Waiting*)** Kristal (a former Parkland Theatre student) has been in theater most of her life. She has been in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and has also been in *Return to the Forbidden Planet* as one of the Omnes (dancers). Also has been the stage manager for *Harvey* and *Laughing Stock*. Most of all she is a dancer and has been dancing for more than 19 years. She has done ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, contemporary... Lets just say that she has done every kind of dance possible. She is so happy to be in this play and thanks everyone for this opportunity.

**Jacquelyn O'Neal\* (*Kitchen Wench*)** Jacquie was last seen on the Parkland stage in *Weekend of One Acts* 2007 as Aunt Viv in *Visiting Hour*. She is the proud mother of three children and two wonderful grandchildren. She is currently attending Parkland College as a Theatre major and loving every minute of it. "I have never played a kitchen wench, but I have always wanted to be chased by a king."

**Cecilee Von Rhea\* (*Princess Winnifred*)** Cecilee is finishing up her last year here at Parkland College. You may have seen her in *Lend Me a Tenor* (Maggie), *Nunsense II* and *Nuncrackers!* (Sr. Amnesia), and *Father of the Bride* (Kay), just to name a few. She would like to thank her lovely cast and crew for all of their hard work and charisma, as well as her family and friends for all of their love and support. A huge thank you goes to everyone whom she has worked with while at Parkland for all of their guidance, encouragement, and friendship. These memories will last a lifetime. "Thank you and enjoy the show."

**William Rose II (*2nd Knight /Sir Luce*)** This is Williams' seventh show at Parkland. He is so excited to be a part of another Parkland musical, having always felt that they are an unparalleled experience to be a part of. He would like to thank everyone involved in this show for being so very talented: The new friends he has made being a part of this experience, and the ones who have joined in for the ride. He would also like to thank everyone who is coming to see the show, as without all of you he would still be in his room playing pretend in front of his Legos. "I have loved pretending to be a star in my mind; I'm glad you could all come play pretend with me!"

**Michael Steen (*Minstrel*)** After several weeks of perfectly blissful sleep with varying numbers of peas under a single mattress, Michael has drawn the painful conclusion that he is in fact \*not\* a princess, and so will be content to perform the role of the Minstrel in this evening's performance. "Randi, Tim, it has been a blast. Namaste."

**Kirby Toalson\* (*1st Lady in Waiting/Rowena*)** Kirby is very excited to be in a musical once again. You may have seen her in *Nuncrackers*, *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel*, or *Lend Me a Tenor*, here at Parkland. She has thoroughly enjoyed working with such a talented cast and crew. She wants to thank her friends and family for their love and support! "Thanks guys!!!"

**Haley Vick (*Nightingale*)** Haley is a freshman at Parkland College and this is her first musical here. She has performed in musicals since she was eight years old. Some lead roles include Amaryllis in *The Music Man*, Maria in *West Side Story*, and Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*. She was also in the Wisconsin State Honors Choirs two years in a row. Haley is quite excited to be portraying Princess #12, Wench #2, and the Nightingale in this production of *Once Upon a Mattress*.

**Rob Zaleski (*4th Knight/Sir Studley*)** Rob cannot believe he is in a musical! He has been on Parkland's stage recently in *Outside the Box* and *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel* and at Station Theatre in *Almost, Maine* and *Little Dog Laughed*. You can never have too much of a good thing. He has learned quite a bit already from the cast and staff for this show, so maybe more singing and dancing are in his future!

**David Zych (*Prince Dauntless*)** David is very excited to be part of his first-ever Parkland production. He was most recently seen onstage in DLO's *The Secret Garden*, and behind the scenes as music director for the Station's *The Full Monty* and *Zombie Prom* as well as CUTC's production of *Joseph*. In real life, David is a network services engineer at the U of I, and is in love with a girl named Laurie.

## STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

**Katie Crull (Assistant Director)** Katie would like to thank her family and all of the cast for making *Once Upon a Mattress* so fun to work on and for letting her be a part of the game. She would also like to thank Randi Hard for letting her help with the show.

**David G. Dillman (Technical Director)** David has been the technical director for Parkland Theatre production for a decade. In that time he has built a couple of shows. Among those are *Sweeney Todd*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Man of La Mancha*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Cabaret*, all three *Nunsense* shows, and *Flight of the Lawnchair Man*. "We hope you have enjoyed our work and we know you will be happy with what is to come..." So, with thanks to a small but very dedicated and talented staff, and of course, to the one who keeps him going and alive, his wonderful lifelong companion, Debbi, "We hope you enjoy the next two shows. Have fun stormin' the castle."

**Randi Collins Hard (Director)** Randi is the artistic director of the Parkland College Theatre and professor of theatre at Parkland. Her directing career includes over 70 plays and musicals, including 17 world premieres. Parkland credits include: *The Age of Stupid Part #3*, *Father of The Bride*, *Flight of the Lawnchair Man*, *The Pillowman*, *Five Kinds of Silence*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Spoon River Anthology*, *Visiting Hour*, *Publish It*, *The Exonerated*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *Assassins*, *The Laramie Project*, *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Company*, *Ten Minute Plays*, *Stories Like Ours*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Five Golden Rings*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, *Agnes of God*, *Royko*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Labours of Love*, *Mrs. Coney*, *Chicago*, and *Futures*. Other local directing credits include *The Book of Dreams* and *Man of La Mancha* at the Summerfest Dinner Theatre and *The Book of Dreams*, *The Journey of the Fifth Horse*, *Burn This*, *Tartuffe*, and *The Odd Couple* for the University of Illinois, Illinois Repertory Theatre at the Krannert Center. She also produced *Silver Jubilee*, the 25th anniversary performance of theatre, dance, opera, music and kabuki at the Krannert Center. "As always, many thanks to all the brilliant and hard working designers, technicians, actors, students, and volunteers who contribute so much to the success of our productions. Enjoy!"

**Andrew Hart\* (Assistant Lighting Design)** Andrew hails from the far away land of Mahomet, Illinois where he graduated high school in 2009. He first appeared onstage as Frank the Bellhop in *Lend Me a Tenor* but since then has found most of his time is spent on the technical side of things with a concentration on lighting. He hopes you enjoy the show!

**Jean Ray Korder (Choreographer)** Jean has choreographed productions for Public Opera of Dallas, Texas; Classic TheatreWorks in Atlanta, Georgia; Evansville Dance Theatre in Indiana; Illinois Opera Theatre; University of Illinois Theatre, and Parkland College Theatre. She holds an MFA in Dance Performance/Choreography from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and an Advanced Certificate from the University of Illinois in Educational Operations and Leadership. She is currently Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment for Urbana School District 116, and always enjoys working with the designers, directors, students, and volunteers at Parkland College.

**Thomas V. Korder (Lighting Design)** Tom has been the Krannert Center Technical Director and Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre since 1989, and currently chairs the Scenic Technology Curriculum. He worked for Fort Worth and Dallas Ballets, TW Designs and other professional companies before beginning his academic career in 1984. He was Assistant Professor and Technical Director/Lighting Designer at Desales University and University of Evansville before coming to Illinois. Tom has had an active free-lance design career including designing locally at the Station Theatre, and numerous productions for the Department of Theatre and Parkland College Theatre. Professionally he is very active with the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, serving in numerous positions at the national and regional levels and in 2006 was selected as the Midwest Section Founder's Award winner.

**Michelle Mills (Costume Designer)** Michelle is so excited to be returning to her costuming roots. "Many thanks to Randi for this exciting and challenging opportunity!"

**Tim Schirmer (Musical Director)** Dr. Schirmer has worked as a composer/musical director for the past 30 years. As a composer his works have received performances on a regional and national level including the award-winning PBS film documentary *The Greatest Lakes*, *Portrait of a Prairie Capitol* at the Old State Capitol in Springfield; four musicals—*The Book of Dreams*, *Futures*, *Five Golden Rings*, *Labors of Love*; and more than 20 scores for the Tony-nominated American Players Theatre in Spring Green, Wisconsin. Most recently he composed the score for *A Christmas Carol* and *A Child's Christmas in Wales*. Tim has been musical director at Parkland for *Nuncrackers!*, *Nunsense II*, *Flight of the Lawnchair Man*, *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, *Bat Boy the Musical*, *Assassins*, *1776*, *Cabaret*, *Nunsense*, *Forever Plaid*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Company*, *Sweeney Todd*, and others.



**THE BALD SOPRANO and THE LESSON**

By Eugène Ionesco, translated from the French by Tina Howe  
Tom Mitchell, director

Oct 7-9, Oct 13-17 // **STUDIO THEATRE**

**MACBETH**

By William Shakespeare, Robert G. Anderson, director

Oct 14-16, Oct 20-24 // **COLWELL PLAYHOUSE**

**IPHIGENIA AND OTHER DAUGHTERS**

By Ellen McLaughlin, Robert Quinlan, director

Oct 28-30, Nov 3-7 // **STUDIO THEATRE**

**THE AFRICAN COMPANY PRESENTS RICHARD III**

By Carlyle Brown, Robert Ramirez, director

Feb 3-5, Feb 8-13 // **STUDIO THEATRE**

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM—IT'S A BACCHANAL!**

By William Shakespeare, Lisa Gaye Dixon, director

March 3-5, March 10-13 // **COLWELL PLAYHOUSE**

**MISALLIANCE**

By George Bernard Shaw, Kathleen F. Conlin, director

Mar 31-Apr 2, Apr 6-10 // **STUDIO THEATRE**

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**Department of Theatre**

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McKinley Presbyterian Church  
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**with Julien Labro, bandoneón  
and Shawn Purcell, guitar**

**Maurice Ravel:** *Le Tombeau de Couperin*

**Oswaldo Golijov:** *Lullaby & Doina*

**Astor Piazzolla:** *Concerto for Guitar,*

*Bandoneón and String Orchestra*

**Ludwig van Beethoven:** *Symphony No. 2*



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## **Tickets**

All seats for theatre events are available by reservation. Reservations may be made by calling 217/351-2528 or sending e-mail to [theatre@parkland.edu](mailto:theatre@parkland.edu). The ticket office is open two hours before every performance. Discount prices are available to students, school children, senior citizens, and organized groups of 15 or more. For information on group sales please call 217/373-3874.

## **Rentals**

The theatre can be rented for conferences, lectures, musical events, dance concerts, and theatrical productions. Rental of the space can be daily or weekly. In addition, props, costumes, and stock scenery are available for rent. Please call 217/353-2341 for more information.

## **Volunteers**

Parkland Theatre is your community college theatre. We would like to meet you and welcome your help backstage on our productions. Opportunities exist for building and painting scenery, hanging lights, styling make-up and hair, sewing and costuming, making props, and ushering. No experience is necessary. We also encourage high school students interested in the arts to experience the process firsthand. Please call 217/351-2531 for more information.

## **Parking**

Parking lots C4 and M1 are adjacent to the theatre. Allow extra time for parking on Wednesday and Thursday evenings while college classes are in session.

## **House Policies**

- All tickets are for general admission, nonreserved seating with the exception of groups of 15 or more who, with advance purchase of tickets, may have a block of seats reserved.
- Taking photographs or using recording devices during the performance is strictly prohibited. In consideration of our seated patrons and performers, latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the house manager.
- Please, no eating, drinking, or smoking in the theatre. Cough drops are available from the ushers as a courtesy to our patrons.
- Please turn off all cellular telephones and pagers before the performance begins.

## **Contributions**

Tax-deductible monetary gifts can be made through the Parkland College Foundation in support of the theatre. Your gift can be for general support or you may specify that it be used to support individual awards. The Randall Millas Theatre Scholarship Fund provides tuition, books, and fees for one year to a sophomore theatre major. The Theatre Production Award Fund provides a cash award for a student who excels in technical theatre production. The Susan and Derek Kraybill Musical Theatre Award provides a cash award for a music student with exceptional participation in musical theatre productions. Please call 217/351-2529 for more information.

Donation of clothing, furniture, hats, jewelry, shoes, and other accessories are appreciated for use in our theatre productions and may be arranged by calling 217/351-2531.

## **Comments**

Your opinions are very important to us! If you have a compliment, criticism, or suggestion, please call us at 217/351-2529 or write to Parkland College Theatre, 2400 West Bradley Avenue, Champaign, IL 61821-1899.

FANTASY/COMEDY/DRAMA

# THE LITTLE PRINCE

By Rick Cummins and John Scoullar  
Adapted from the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry  
Director: Jennifer Goran

April 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16 7:30pm  
April 16, 17 3pm

In this visually stunning adaptation of the classic book, a world-weary aviator makes an emergency landing, stranding him in the middle of the barren Sahara Desert. When a mysterious, regal little boy from another planet appears and asks him to draw a sheep, the aviator is annoyed and distracted from his crisis — unaware that he is about to have a transforming experience. By learning from this little prince that “what is essential is invisible to the eye”, the aviator comes to a new understanding of how to laugh, cry and love again. *Appropriate for the whole family.*

“A tale that awakens the child tucked in all of us”  
—Cape Cod Times

